

Orlando

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By Authority of the  
Commanding General,  
AAF Tactical Center  
3/14/45 MBS  
Date Initials

HISTORICAL DATA

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901ST AAF BASE UNIT (TACTICAL WING)  
AAF TACTICAL CENTER  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

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1 FEBRUARY 1945 to 1 MARCH 1945

00156786

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9, 27 Sep 58

P.R.C.

*Bertram S. Sherman*  
BERTRAM S. SHERMAN  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Historical Officer



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Squadron H flew B-17 sorties on the same missions. Squadron G flew twenty-seven B-24 sorties during the month of February for the Airborne Radar Familiarization and Radar Scope classes. Three B-24's were used on an 8-1 Demonstration Air-Sea Search for Naval Officers from Jacksonville.

Fifty-eight P-51, three P-38, and six P-47 sorties were flown in training of the V-Beam Control (MEW) at Leesburg. A Ground Demonstration of the B-29 was given for Aero Medical Officers. A group of Brazilian Officers were given a Ground Demonstration on the P-59 and B-29. A 1-11 Ground Demonstration of tactical type aircraft was given for the AAA Staff Officer's Course. This included one P-47, one P-59, one P-38, one B-24, one B-29, one B-17, one A-20, one P-51 and one A-26. A Ground Demonstration was also given for Civilian Air Patrol pilots. Two P-47's, one P-59, two P-38's, and two P-51's were used in a 3-11, Strafing of Convoy Demonstration, for the AAA Staff Officers at Pinecastle. Two A-26's and one B-24 were used for a photo mission in connection with Public Relations. A Strafing Mission and a Homing Mission were run for AAFSAT Medical Officer's Cadre. One Calibration Mission was set up to check the D/F Stations. An A-26 flew a Chemical Spray Mission for the AFTAC CWS and two 3-10 Ordnance and two 3-12 Chemical Demonstrations were given during the month. One of each was for the AAA Staff Officers and one for the Senior Medical Officers. A total of thirty aircraft was used on these demonstrations.

On 22 February, the monthly 3-13 Tactical Air Force Demonstration was flown. In the course of this Demonstration, the following sorties were

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flown: Thirty-six P-47's, sixteen P-51's, sixteen P-38's, nineteen A-26's, and one B-29. In conjunction with this Demonstration, a 3-12 Chemical Demonstration was run by two P-51's, three A-26's and a B-17.

Two Field Orders were sent to the 904th AAF Base Unit for controlled interception of B-29 Gypsy Task Force Missions. One Field Order was sent to the 904th for twelve P-47's to intercept the Simulated Bombing Mission for AAFSAT Combat Intelligence students. Six B-17's were used on this mission. Daily Field Orders were sent to Leesburg Control Center for missions to be run by Units under the Wing. Information copies were sent to the 903rd and 904th AAF Base Units. This Directorate received a rating of excellent from the Tampa Field Inspector.

The Intelligence Branch reindoctrinated enlisted men and civilian personnel of this Headquarters in AR 380-5. All Sections and Squadrons were informed of the new method of safe control and a check-up was made to see that all combination and field safes and combination lock files were properly marked and that security procedure was being carried out.

Regular Intelligence meetings were held with the Base and Squadron Intelligence Officers. At a meeting on 16 February in the Wing Air Room all present were informed about methods of handling monthly historical data and also the manner in which Aeronautical Charts for the Squadrons would be ordered. Arrangements were made for Lieutenant Frank Blair of the Aero Medical Department to talk at Kissimmee on Survival. Major D.W. Shoemaker, Executive Officer of the Intelligence School, gave two talks

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Needless to say, the administrative portion of the squadron has put in "plenty of work".

Inspections are always welcomed at this Squadron, even though apprehension always invades the men or sections being inspected. However, this is an excellent method for building a good squadron and improving the squadron's standing.

From 5 February to 8 February 1945, the entire Squadron was turned over to the dentists for the semi-annual dental survey. This type of duty generally results in many complications for a squadron having seven or eight units in the field. As a control squadron must keep someone on duty in each unit all twenty-four hours, the plan this time was to send a bus around to pick up one half of each unit and bring them in for survey one day, and then return them the next, picking up the other half on the return trip. But the best laid plans do not always work. The trip around the field installations is over four hundred miles, and the boys picked up at the first unit were very tired after this ride in a "GI" bus. Also no allowances were made for bus breakdowns so a new set of plans is in the making for the next dental survey. All men have now been surveyed and remedial work has been accomplished on all members of this squadron.

On 16 February 1945, VHF radio ground-air communications was furnished by our squadron for an Ordnance and Chemical Warfare demonstration held at the Pinecastle Bombing Range. Staff Sergeant Buniowsky was breaking in